

Camp Harkness Advisory Council
Camp Harkness Dining Hall
Wednesday, April 22, 2015
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Bev Jackson, Thomas Dailey, Ron Rassi, Betsy Danforth, April Dipollina, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Dan Steward, Vicki Severin, and Maryann Langton

Others Present: Liz Adams, Carin Mancini, Frank Provenzano, Rob Brule, Debbie F (personal support), and DDS Commissioner Morna Murray

1. The meeting was called to order by Stan Soby at 4:48PM.
2. **Public Comments** - Rob Brule, a Waterford Selectman and CEO of project Genesis introduced himself to the group. Project Genesis provides services via the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Waiver. They have 75 programs and 250 employees. They provide programs in Special education and work with 80-100 students in a transitional program with the LEAs. Their home office is in Willimantic.
3. **Additions to agenda** – Internet. Terry from the ARCNL is having difficulty with data that is stored in “The Cloud”. Problem lies with ATT and Frontier. Carin and Thomas to follow up with Tina Goode at DDS.
4. **Approval of minutes** from March 26, 2015 minutes. A motion to approve was made by Jackson, with a 2nd from April. Minutes were approved, with 21 abstentions.
5. **Correspondence** – None
6. **Camp Harkness Fund** – Vicki reported that she has been receiving inquiries about the sale of bricks for the walkway. In order to have the bricks installed, 25 must be purchased. In the past, the bricks were sold for \$50-\$75. The Camp Harkness Fund is giving each of the camps \$2,000.00 for camperships.
7. **Master Plan** - 1 presentation was done so far. We received good feedback after the session. The second session will be held tonight. We will be conducting a survey, so people can vote on their top 10 priorities. There is the possibility that some of the Scouts or BESB may be interested in assisting with completing parts of the plan (e.g. – the Marsh walk).
8. **Bingham Beach** – Agreement with the town of Waterford has been forwarded to the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner. We are recommending moving ahead with the proposal. DDS is very involved in budgetary issues at this time. We are optimistic that this will be

approved by the State Property Review Board. Getting the agreement signed now is not an issue, per Dan Steward.

9. Old Business –

- a. **Camp report** – United Way has 75-150 volunteers coming from Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun on May 13th. Total park visitors for the month – 1155.
- b. **Physical Plant** – Frank reported that the infirmary is almost done. All resources are being directed to the equestrian area. A new telephone line has been brought in to the horse barn. The plan is for the horses to arrive on June 1st.
Maryann requested that an additional grab bar be installed in the ladies room in the dining hall. The same grab bar will be installed in the men's room. There is also a request to order the right type of toilet paper dispenser for the accessible bathroom. Bev provided a picture for us to use when placing the order.
The Fire Marshal conducted an unannounced visit at Camp. He will be returning back in May to inspect the cabins. A lengthy discussion took place about who has or doesn't have jurisdiction over the fire pit. In the end, it was agreed that we do not want to dismiss the campers concerns or safety issues. We will need to find a middle ground that we all can live with.
- c. **Website update** – still a work in progress
- d. **Other** – Stan introduced DDS Commissioner Morna Murray. Introductions were done. The Commissioner explained that she was here to "listen and learn". Thomas provided a brief overview on the improvements that have taken place over the last four years. A brief overview of Camp Harkness and the Camp Harkness Fund. The Commissioner was invited to return when the camps are in session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stan Soby and seconded by Jackson.

Meeting adjourned at 5:38PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carin M. Mancini

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